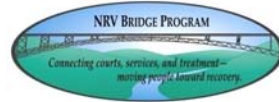




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Jail Diversion in
Virginia's New River Valley



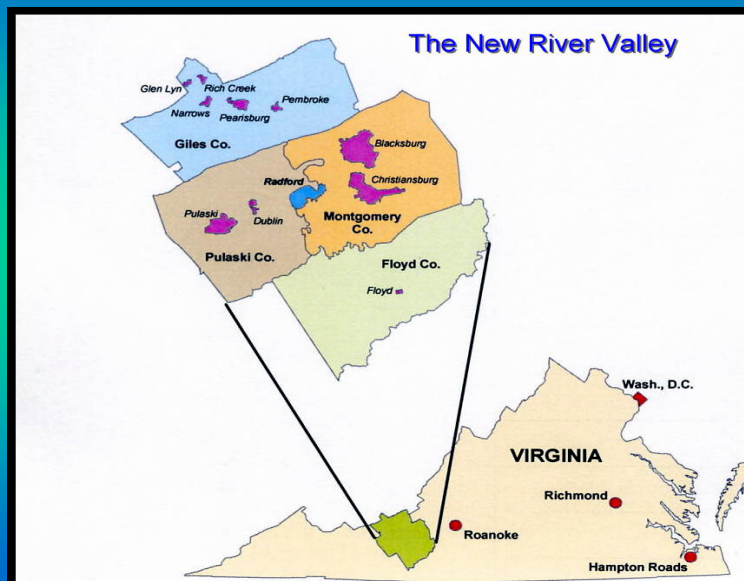
The Current Status of Pre- and Post-Booking Diversion Initiatives in the New River Valley

Victoria Huber Cochran, JD
Joseph R. Yost, Research Assistant
Mental Health Association of the New River Valley
Blacksburg, Virginia

Presented to
The Joint Commission on Health Care
Behavioral Health Care Subcommittee
August 16, 2007

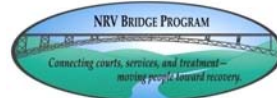
1

CIT and Bridge Catchment Area





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➤ **Five jurisdictions:**

- **Giles County**
- **Pulaski County**
- **Radford City**
- **Montgomery County**
- **Floyd County**

Two jails:

- **Montgomery County Jail**
- **NRV Regional Jail** (serving ~ ½ of Jail Service Area)

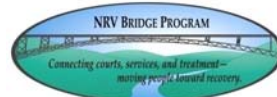
➤ **Total Population = 166,712 people**

➤ **Total Area = 1,463.18 square miles (1,097 rural)**

3



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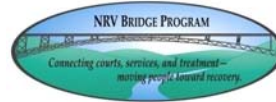
The Criminal Justice Continuum and Mental Health Intervention Intersections:

- ✓ **Pre-booking**
- ✓ **Post-booking**
- ✓ **Trial**
- ✓ **Post-Trial**
- ✓ **Post-Incarceration (prisoner re-entry)**

4



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Overall goal of a pre-booking diversion program such as CIT:

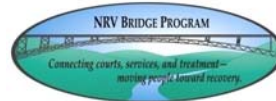
- *To prevent the inappropriate jailing of persons with mental illness and instead, provide treatment in the community.*

The diversion occurs at the point of contact with highly trained, specialized law enforcement officers before formal charges are made.

5



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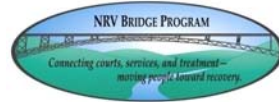
Expanding CIT in Virginia

- Partnership between MHA and DCJS
 - Training localities to become self-sustaining
 - 40 hour training for "seed" officers/faculty
 - Train the Trainer
 - Expert consultation and technical assistance

6



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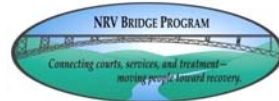


- The numbers
 - Three 40 hour trainings for non-NRV agencies
 - Over 90 officers and faculty trained
 - Two communities now self-sustaining
 - Two communities ready by 12/07
 - Many communities beginning CIT development and sending "seed" officers
 - NRV continued growth, training

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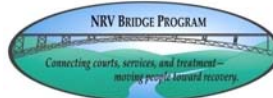


The Bridge Program Post –Booking Diversion

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Montgomery County Jail

Booked approximately 4400 individuals in 2005

- ~60% non-violent crimes
- ~75% released w/in 72 hrs.
- ~220 average daily census

New River Valley Regional Jail

Average Daily Census: ~500 inmates

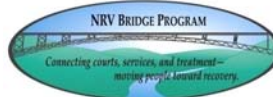
- About half within catchment's service area
- 16% anticipated to have MI/co-occurring SA disorders



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Overall goal of a post-booking diversion program such as The Bridge:

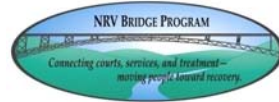
- *To reduce inappropriate pre-trial incarceration of persons with mental illness charged with crimes and instead, provide effective treatment in the community*

The diversion occurs at the initial court appearance *within 24 to 72 hours of arrest.*

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How does the Bridge Program work?

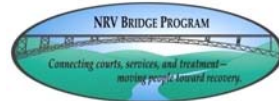
The Foundation:

- Development through cooperative, informed and invested community stakeholders
- Partnerships with existing resources and creation of new resources
- Continued training and outreach

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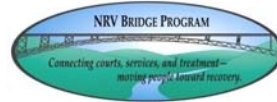
The Process:

- Earliest possible identification of potentially eligible individuals at arrest, booking, arraignment or bond hearing utilizing
 - Magistrates
 - Booking Officers
 - Pre-trial Services
 - Judges
 - Defense Counsel and Prosecutors

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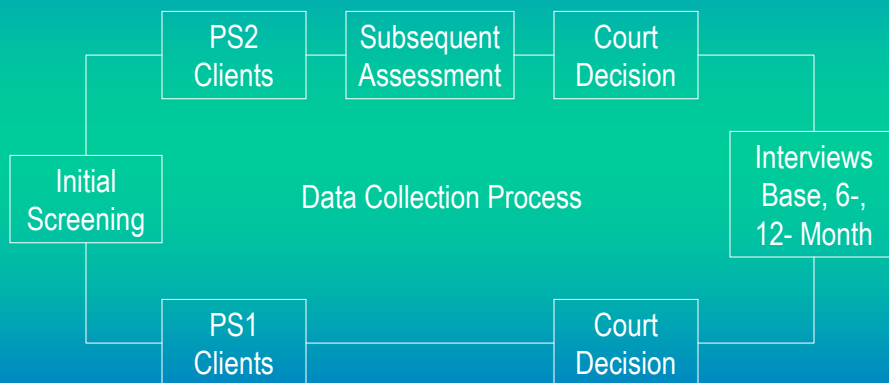
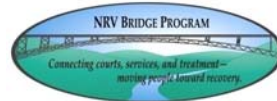
The Program

- Three Part Screening Process
- Court Approved Bond with Defendant's Informed Consent
- Enrollment and Participation in Program
 - Specialized criminal justice experienced treatment team
 - Mandatory psycho educational classes
 - Court liaison and pre-trial supervision

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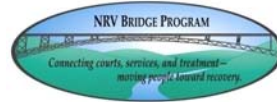
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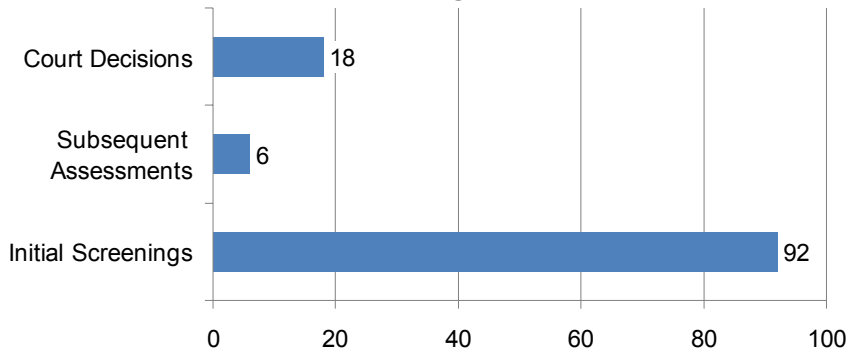
14



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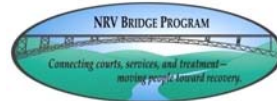
Totals as of August 14, 2007



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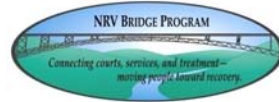


There is a complete demographic break of clients at the initial screening phase, subsequent assessment phase, and court phase please refer to your handout

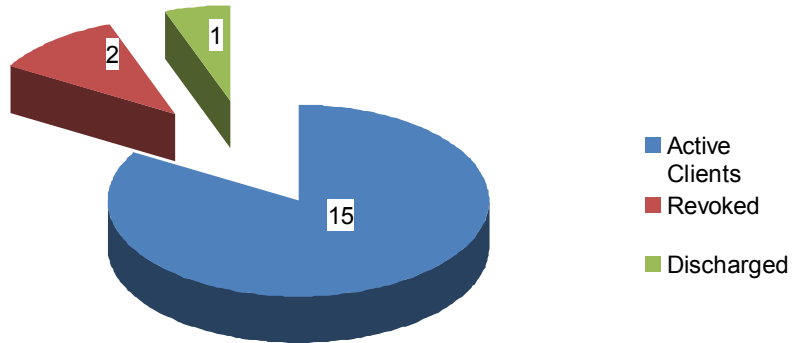
16



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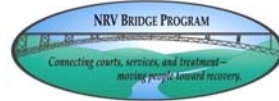
Client Break Down



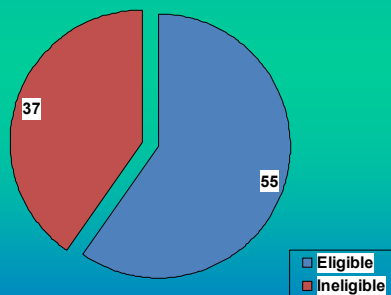
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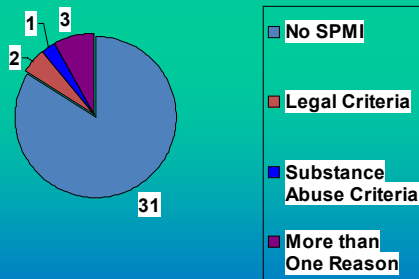
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Eligibility Breakdown



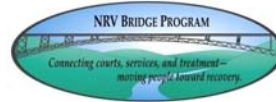
Ineligibility Breakdown



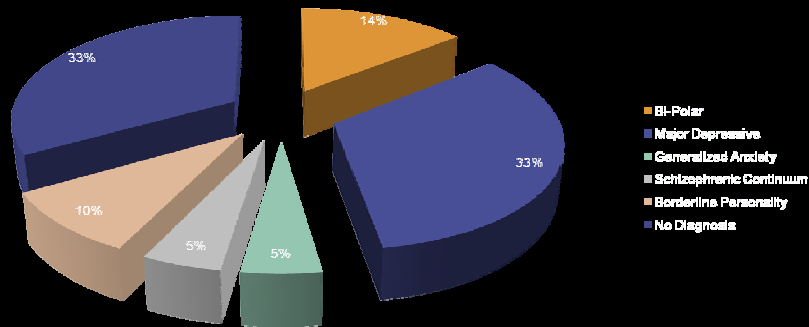
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Client Diagnoses

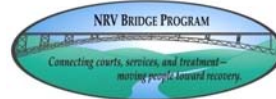


Note: 3 Clients had multiple
mental health diagnosis's

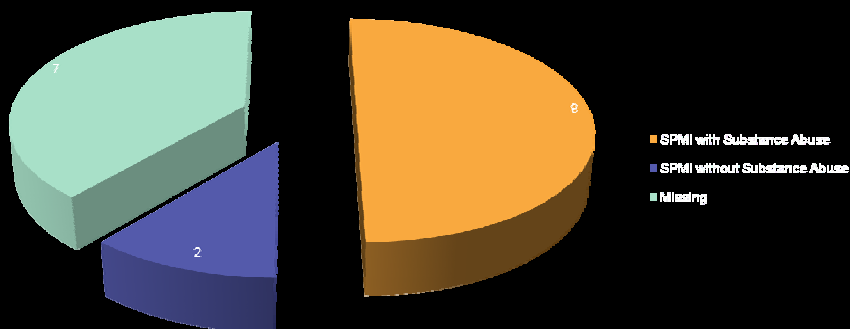
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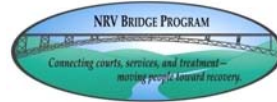
Clients with Co-occurring Disorder



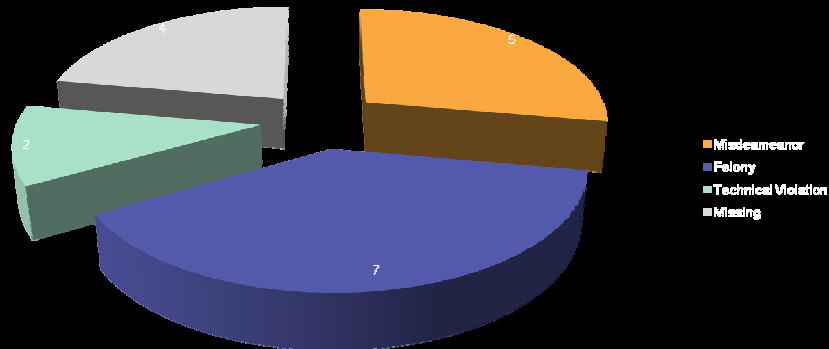
20



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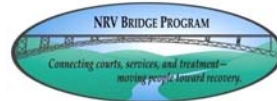
Client Charge Level



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